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**Written Testimony of the Connecticut Orthopaedic Society**  
**HB 1110, AA Concerning Various Revisions to the Department of Social Services Statutes**  
**Human Services Committee – Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

Senator Lesser, Representative Gilcrest, and distinguished Members of the Human Services Committee, on behalf of the more than 240 orthopaedic surgeons of the Connecticut Orthopaedic Society (COS), thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony opposing **HB 1110, AA Concerning Various Revisions to the Department of Social Services Statutes; Section 6 (New)** due to lack of clarification regarding the possible implications of the proposed language found in Section 6 of this bill.

In late October 2022, the COS wrote to Commissioner Gifford regarding the proposed regulation, PR 2022-002, posted on 10/20/22, by Connecticut's Department of Social Services (DSS) concerning alternative payment methodologies. In our letter we asked for further clarification regarding the intention and the potential impact the proposed regulations may have on other physician specialties.

**HB 1110, AA Concerning Various Revisions to the Department of Social Services Statutes; Section 6 (New)** as written, purports the same language as found in the proposed DSS regulations noted above. While the language references maternity bundled payment systems, the general language that follows is broad and could be interpreted to extend to other physician specialties and areas of care and treatment. The bill, as written, may also allow for any change in payment methodology for other physicians without specifying criteria for changes or establishing a formal review procedure to evaluate the impact of the changes.

The lack of specification of the bill's language, the probability that the broad language could be applied to other physician specialties along with allowing a State department to make significant changes without transparent and well-defined criteria and the lack of representation and/or appeal process are several reasons we request this Committee to oppose Section 6 of HB 1110.

As President of the Connecticut Orthopaedic Society, I would welcome the opportunity to address the orthopaedic community's concerns with members of the Committee. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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